

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 1 and 3, and add new Claim 14, as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An ink-jet recording medium having at least a light-reflecting layer and a dye-fixing layer formed in this order on a base material in a multilayer structure, wherein the light-reflecting layer contains two or more pigments different in chemical composition, wherein the pigments comprise average particle size of a pigment (A) having a highest liquid absorbency in the pigments and is smaller than the average particle size of a pigment (B) having a lowest liquid absorbency in the pigments, and wherein the pigment (A) has an average particle size of not larger than 0.5 ± μm, and the pigment (B) has an average particle size ranging from $0.5 \mu\text{m}$ to $10 \mu\text{m}$, provided that the average particle size of the pigment (A) is smaller than the average particle size of the pigment (B), and wherein the dye-fixing layer comprises not less than 70 mass percent alumina hydrate particles.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment (A) has an average particle size of not larger than $0.5 \mu\text{m}$, and the pigment (B) has an average particle size ranging from $0.5 \mu\text{m}$ to $5 \mu\text{m}$.

4. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the light-reflecting layer is directly formed on the base material.

5. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment (A) is an aluminum pigment.

6. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment (B) has a refractive index of not less than 1.6.

7. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment (B) is barium sulfate.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the dye-fixing layer serves as a recording face and has a 20°-glossiness of not lower than 20%.

10. (Previously Presented) An ink-jet recording medium having at least a light-reflecting layer and a dye-fixing layer formed in this order on a base material in a multilayer structure, wherein the light-reflecting layer contains an aluminum pigment and barium sulfate, wherein the average particle size of the aluminum pigment is smaller than the average particle size of the barium sulfate, and the surface of the dye-fixing layer has a 20°-glossiness of not less than 20%, and wherein the dye-fixing layer comprises not less than 70 mass percent alumina hydrate particles.

11. (Original) An ink-jet recording medium having at least a light-reflecting layer and a dye-fixing layer formed in this order on a base material in a multilayer structure, wherein the light-reflecting layer contains an aluminum pigment and a silica pigment, and wherein the average particle size of the aluminum pigment is smaller than the average particle size of the silica pigment, and the surface of the dye-fixing layer has a 20°-glossiness of not less than 20%.

12. (Previously Presented) An image forming method, comprising a step of conducting recording on the recording medium according to claim 1 by an ink-jet recording system.

13. (Withdrawn) A process for producing the recording medium according to claim 1, said process comprising applying a first coating liquid containing the two or more pigments different in chemical composition onto the base material to form the light-reflecting layer, applying a second coating liquid containing alumina hydrate particles onto the light-reflecting layer to form the dye-fixing layer, and swelling the dye-fixing layer followed by pressing a surface thereof against a heated smooth face to conduct drying treatment.

14. (New) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the dye-fixing layer comprises not less than 70 mass percent alumina hydrate particles.